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13. (twice amended) A nuclear reactor comprising:
a primary containment vessel;
a reactor pressure vessel positioned in said primary containment vessel; and
a reactor servicing platform comprising:
a frame comprising a plurality of interconnected beams;
a support structure attached to said frame;
a floor attached to and covering said frame, said floor comprising a reactor access
opening sized to permit access to said reactor pressure vessel; and
at least one auxiliary platform extending into said access opening, said at least one
auxiliary platform movable along a perimeter of said access opening of said floor.

B³
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24. (twice amended) A method of servicing a nuclear reactor during a reactor outage,
the reactor comprising a primary containment vessel and a reactor pressure vessel positioned in
the primary containment vessel, said method comprising:
positioning a servicing platform above the reactor pressure vessel, the servicing platform
comprising a frame comprising a plurality of interconnected beams, a support structure attached
to the frame, a floor attached to the frame, the floor comprising a reactor access opening sized to
permit access to the reactor pressure vessel, and at least one auxiliary platform extending into the
access opening, the at least one auxiliary platform movable along a perimeter of the access
opening of the floor; and
performing predetermined servicing operations on the reactor.

Please add the following new claims.

34. A method in accordance with Claim 24 wherein positioning a servicing platform above the reactor pressure vessel comprises:

assembling the reactor servicing platform inside the primary containment vessel; and
moving the reactor servicing platform into position above the reactor pressure vessel.

35. A method in accordance with Claim 34 wherein assembling the reactor servicing platform inside the primary containment vessel comprises coupling modular sections of the reactor servicing platform together, each modular section comprising at least one of a portion of the frame, a portion of the support structure, and a portion of the floor.

36. A modular reactor servicing platform for a nuclear reactor, the nuclear reactor comprising a reactor pressure vessel positioned in a primary containment, the primary containment comprising a refueling floor, said servicing platform comprising:

a frame comprising a plurality of interconnected beams;
a support structure attached to said frame; and
a floor attached to and covering said frame, said floor comprising a reactor access opening sized to permit access to the reactor pressure vessel;

said frame, support structure, and floor arranged as a plurality of modular sections that when coupled together form said modular reactor servicing platform, each said modular section comprising at least one of a portion of the frame, a portion of the support structure, and a portion of the floor.

37. A reactor servicing platform in accordance with Claim 36 further comprising at least one auxiliary platform extending into said access opening.

38. A reactor servicing platform in accordance with Claim 37 wherein said at least one auxiliary platform is movable along a perimeter of said access opening of said floor.

39. A reactor servicing platform in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said access opening has a circular, elliptical, or polygonal shape.

40. A reactor servicing platform in accordance with Claim 36 further comprising a safety rail extending around a perimeter of said access opening.

41. A reactor servicing platform in accordance with Claim 36 further comprising a safety rail extending around an outer perimeter of said floor.

Remarks

The Office Action dated December 20, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 4-13, 16-24, and 27-41 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31, and 33 stand rejected. Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 22, 29, 30, and 32 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 34-41 are newly added.

Submitted herewith is a Submission Of Marked Up Claims in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

The rejection of Claims 1, 4-8, 11-13, 16-18, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by any one of Gregson (US 3,393,026), Wade (US